

# ELLIS:LAWHORNE

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March 30, 2004

## VIA HAND-DELIVERY

The Honorable Bruce Duke  
Executive Director  
**South Carolina Public Service Commission**  
PO Drawer 11649  
Columbia SC 29211

RE: Application of TC Systems, Inc. for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide Local Exchange Service (including Exchange Access) and Intrastate Interexchange Telecommunications Services Within the State of South Carolina, for Flexible Rate Structure for Local Exchange Service Offerings First Approved in Docket No. 97-467-C and for Alternative Regulation First Approved in Docket No. 95-661-C  
**Docket No. 2004-0074-C, Our File No. 611-10226**

Dear Mr. Duke:

Enclosed is the original and fifteen (15) copies of the Revised Tariff filed on behalf of TC Systems, Inc. in the above-referenced docket. Please replace this tariff with the tariff that was filed with the application as Exhibit "B" on March 10, 2004.

Please acknowledge your receipt of this document by file-stamping the copy of this letter enclosed, and returning it via the person delivering same.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

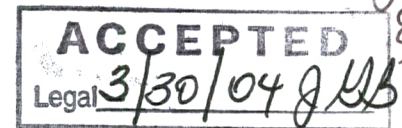
*John J. Pringle, Jr.*  
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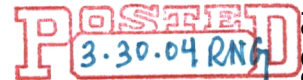
cc: Gene Coker, Esquire

Enclosures

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ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

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SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 39

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.7. DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

#### Customer(s)

The term "Customer(s)" denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, corporation, or governmental entity or other entity which subscribes to the services offered under this tariff.

#### Customer Premises

The term "Customer Premises" denotes the premises designated or used by the Customer for the provision of Access Service.

#### Dial Around Service

Dial Around Service allows an End User to reach a non-presubscribed Interexchange Carrier via dialing 10XXX or 101XXXX.

#### DS1 Facility

The term "DS1 Facility" denotes a facility that is capable of transmitting electrical signals at a nominal rate of 1.544 Mbps, with the capability to channelize up to 24 voice-frequency transmission paths.

#### DS3 Facility

The term "DS3 Facility" denotes a facility that is capable of transmitting electrical or optical signals at a nominal rate of 44.736 Mbps, with the capability to channelize up to 672 voice-frequency transmission paths.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

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SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 40

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.7. DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

#### End Office

The term "End Office" denotes a Company switching system where Local Exchange Service customer station loops are terminated for purposes of interconnection to each other and to trunks.

#### End User

The term "End User" means any customer of an interstate or foreign telecommunications service that is not a carrier, except that a carrier other than a telephone company shall be deemed to be an "End User" when such carrier uses a telecommunications service for administrative purposes, and a person or entity that offers telecommunications service exclusively as a reseller shall be deemed to be an "End User" if all resale transmissions offered by such reseller originate on the premises of such reseller.

#### Exchange

The term "Exchange" denotes a unit established by the Company for the administration of communications service in a specified area which usually embraces a city, town or village and its environs. It consists of one or more central offices together with the associated facilities used in furnishing communications service within that area. The exchange includes any Extended Area Service area that is an enlargement of the Company's exchange area to include nearby exchanges.

#### First Point of Switching

The term "First Point of Switching" denotes the first Company location at which switching occurs on the terminating path of a Call proceeding from the Customer Premises to the terminating End Office and, at the same time, the last Company location at which switching occurs on the originating path of a Call proceeding from the originating End Office to the Customer Premises.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 41

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.7. DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

Immediately Available funds in U.S. dollars

The term "Immediately Available funds in U.S. dollars" denotes a corporate or personal check drawn on a bank account and funds which are available for use by the receiving party on the same day on which they are received and include U.S. Federal Reserve bank wire transfers, U.S. Federal Reserve notes (paper cash), U.S. coins, U.S. Postal Money Orders and New York Certificates of Deposit.

Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC)

The term "Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier" shall mean any Carrier that constitutes an "incumbent local exchange carrier" pursuant to Section 251(h)(1) of the Communications Act of 1934 or that is treated as an "incumbent local exchange carrier" pursuant to Section 251(h)(2) of the Communications Act of 1934.

Individual Case Basis (ICB)

The term "Individual Case Basis" denotes a condition in which the regulations, if applicable, rates and charges for an offering under the provisions of this tariff are developed based on the circumstances in each case.

Interconnection Agreement

The term "Interconnection Agreement" denotes a lawful written agreement between the Company and a Local Exchange Carrier relating to the mutual termination of Local Traffic.

Interexchange Carrier (IC) or Interexchange Common Carrier

The terms "Interexchange Carrier" (IC) or "Interexchange Common Carrier" denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged for hire in intrastate communication by fiber optics, wire or radio or any suitable technology or combination of technologies, between two or more exchanges.

Intermediate Carrier

The term "Intermediate Carrier" denotes another carrier with which the Company has made an arrangement under which the carrier will provide services that may include, without limitation, data base, switching and/or transport services in connection with Calls and is authorized by the Company to bill the Customer for all access services under the carrier's tariff as if all such services had been provided by the carrier.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 42

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.7. DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

#### Interstate Communications

The term "Interstate Communications" denotes both interstate and foreign communications.

#### Intrastate Communications

The term "Intrastate Communications" denotes any communications within a state subject to oversight by a state regulatory commission as provided by the laws of the state involved.

#### Legal Holiday

The term "Legal Holiday" denotes a day other than a Saturday or Sunday for which the Company is normally closed.

#### Local Access and Transport Area (LATA)

The term "Local Access and Transport Area" denotes a geographic area established for the provision and administration of communications service. It encompasses one or more designated exchanges, which are grouped to serve common social, economic and other purposes.

#### Local Exchange Carrier

The term "Local Exchange Carrier" denotes any individual, partnership, association, joint-stock company, trust, governmental entity or corporation engaged for hire in providing Local Exchange Service.

#### Local Exchange Service

The term "Local Exchange Service" denotes a service which provides for exchange telephone communication within a local calling area.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 43

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.7. DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

#### Local Traffic

For the purposes of this tariff, the term "Local Traffic" means calls that originate and terminate within the territory agreed to by the Company and a Customer in an Interconnection Agreement as the territory within which Calls subject to the reciprocal compensation provisions of the Interconnection Agreement are originated and terminated. "Local Traffic" shall also be subject to any other restrictions specified in an Interconnection Agreement.

#### Major Fraction Thereof

The term "Major Fraction Thereof" denotes any period of time in excess of 1/2 of the stated amount of time. As an example, in considering a period of 24 hours, a Major Fraction Thereof would be any period of time in excess of 12 hours exactly.

#### Mutual Traffic Exchange

The term "Mutual Traffic Exchange" denotes a compensation arrangement between the Company and a Customer where each party agrees to terminate on its network Local Traffic originated on the other party's network without charge to each other (also known as a "Bill and Keep" arrangement).

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 44

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.7. DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

#### NIS

The term "Network Interconnection Services" (NIS) denotes the use of the network or facilities of the Company to enable a Carrier to terminate Local Traffic.

#### North American Numbering Plan

The term "North American Numbering Plan" denotes a three digit area code (Numbering Plan Area NPA) and a seven digit telephone number made up of a three digit Central Office prefix plus a four digit station number.

#### Off-hook

The term "Off-hook" denotes the active condition of a Local Exchange Service line.

#### On-hook

The term "On-hook" denotes the idle condition of a Local Exchange Service line.

#### Originating Direction

The term "Originating Direction" denotes the use of a service for the completion of calls from an End User Premises to a Customer Premises or Point of Interconnection.

#### Percent of Interstate Use (PIU)

The term "Percent of Interstate Use" (PIU) denotes the percent of interstate usage on lines or trunks carrying interstate and intrastate calls.

#### Point of Interconnection (POI)

The term "Point of Interconnection" (POI) denotes a place where the Company's and a Customer's networks physically connect for the purpose of exchanging (1) in the case of NIS, Local Traffic, and (2) in the case of Access Services, traffic originated by or terminating to End Users.

#### Point of Termination (POT)

The term "Point of Termination" is defined in Section 2.1.5. preceding.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 45

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2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.7. DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

Premises

The term "Premises" denotes a building, a portion of a building in a multitenant building or buildings on continuous property (except Railroad Right-of-Way, etc.) not separated by a public thoroughfare.

Serving Wire Center

The term "Serving Wire Center" denotes the wire center from which the Customer Premises would normally obtain dial tone from a telephone company providing access service to such premises.

Signaling System 7 (SS7)

The term "Signaling System 7 (SS7)" denotes the common channel out of band signaling protocol developed by the Consultative Committee for International Telephone and Telegraph (CCITT) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

Telecommunications Service

The term "Telecommunications Service" means the offering of telecommunications for a fee directly to the public, or to such classes of users as to be effectively available directly to the public, regardless of the facilities used.

Terminating Direction

The term "Terminating Direction" denotes the use of a service for the completion of calls from a Customer Premises or Point of Interconnection to an End User Premises.

Toll Free (8YY) Service

Toll Free (8YY) Service is a telecommunications service which permits inward calling between a location associated with an access line in one area and locations in diverse geographical service areas specified by the owner of the Toll Free (8YY) number. The Call is without charge to the calling party. The owner of the Toll Free (8YY) number is responsible for the access charges associated with the service.

Transmission Path

The "Transmission Path" denotes an electrical path capable of transmitting signals within the range of the service offering, e.g., a voice grade transmission path is capable of transmitting voice frequencies within the approximate range of 300 to 3000 Hz. A transmission path is comprised of physical or derived facilities consisting of any form or configuration of plant typically used in the telecommunications industry.



ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 46

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.7. DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

#### Trunk

The term "Trunk" denotes a communications path connecting two switching systems in a network, used in the establishment of an end-to-end connection.

#### Trunk Group

The term "Trunk Group" denotes a set of trunks which are traffic engineered as a unit for the establishment of connections between switching systems in which all of the communications paths are interchangeable.

#### V and H Coordinates Method

The term "V and H Coordinates Method" denotes a method of computing airline miles between two points by utilizing an established formula which is based on the vertical and horizontal coordinates of the two points.

#### Wire Center

The term "Wire Center" denotes a building in which one or more central offices, or access tandems are located.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 2  
FIRST REVISED PAGE 47  
CANCELS ORIGINAL PAGE 47

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.8. Universal Service Charge

Services provided pursuant to this Tariff are subject to an undiscountable monthly South Carolina Universal Service Charge. Subject to billing system availability, this Charge will be applied as a percentage of the Customer's total net international, interstate and intrastate monthly recurring and usage-based charges for calls that are billed within the state of South Carolina, after application of all applicable discounts and credits. International, interstate and intrastate charges are assessed this Charge under order by the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. For Customer invoices beginning July 15, 2003, the South Carolina Universal Service Charge is 2.47% of applicable charges.

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SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

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SECTION 3  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

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SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

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EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

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SECTION 4  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

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SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

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SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

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SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 2

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

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SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 3

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

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EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

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SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 4

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

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SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 5

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

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SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 6

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 7

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 8

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SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 9

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SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 10

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 11

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 12

5. RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE.



TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

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EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 13

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SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 14

5. RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 5  
ORIGINAL PAGE 15

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 6  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 7  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 8  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

---

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 9  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 10  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 10  
ORIGINAL PAGE 2

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 10  
ORIGINAL PAGE 3

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 10  
ORIGINAL PAGE 4

10. RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 11  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

11. RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 12  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

12. RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 13  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

13.1 Reserved for Future Use.

13.2 Reserved for Future Use.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 13  
ORIGINAL PAGE 2

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

13.3. Reserved for Future Use.

13.3.1. Reserved for Future Use.

13.3.2. Reserved for Future Use.

13.3.3. Reserved for Future Use.

13.3.4. Reserved for Future Use.

13.3.5. Other Labor

Other labor is that additional labor incurred to accommodate a specific Customer request that involves labor which is not covered by any other section of this tariff.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 13  
ORIGINAL PAGE 3

---

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

13.4 Miscellaneous Services

13.4.1 Reserved For Future Use

A. Reserved For Future Use



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SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 13  
ORIGINAL PAGE 4

---

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

13.4 Miscellaneous Services (Cont'd)

13.4.1 Reserved For Future Use (Cont'd)

B. Reserved For Future Use

C. Reserved For Future Use

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SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff, Administrator

---

SECTION 13  
ORIGINAL PAGE 5

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

13.4 Miscellaneous Services (Cont'd)

13.4.1 Reserved For Future Use (Cont'd)

D. Reserved For Future Use

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 13  
ORIGINAL PAGE 6

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

13.4 Miscellaneous Services (Cont'd)

13.4.2 Billing Name and Address Service

A. General Description

1. Billing Name and Address (BNA) Service is the provision by the Company to an intrastate service provider who is a Customer of the Company of the complete billing name, street address, city or town, state and zip code for a telephone number assigned by the Company. An intrastate service provider is defined as an interexchange carrier, an operator service provider, an enhanced service provider or any other provider of intrastate telecommunications services.
2. BNA Service is provided only for the purposes of allowing Customers to bill their end users for telephone services provided by the Customer, order entry and Customer service information, fraud prevention, identification of end users who have moved to a new address, any purpose associated with equal access requirement, and information associated with collect calls and third party calls.

BNA information may not be resold or used for any other purpose including, but not limited to, marketing or merchandising activities.

3. BNA information associated with listed/published telephone numbers will be provided. For calling card calls and collect and third party billed calls, the Company's BNA Service is not available with respect to accounts of nonpublished/unlisted end users who, by request to the Company (which request may be submitted at any time), have specified that such information not be released.

B. Undertaking of the Company

1. Standard formats for the receipt of BNA requests and the provision of BNA information will be established by the Company.
2. Upon written request from an authorized individual of the Customer the Company will provide BNA information. The standard response to such requests will be via e-mail or other negotiated mediums, such as Direct: Connect or tape.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 13  
ORIGINAL PAGE 7

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

13.4 Miscellaneous Services (Cont'd)

13.4.2 Billing Name and Address Service (Cont'd)

B. Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)

3. Upon receipt of a magnetic tape or electronic feed of BNA requests from the Customer, the Company will, where technically feasible, enter the BNA information on the Customer's magnetic tape or data file. The standard response for magnetic tape requests will be via magnetic tape. The standard response for an electronic BNA request will be via electronic feed.
4. Non-standard methods of receiving and providing the data may be negotiated and will be provided by the Company, where available, subject to the charges set forth in Rate Section following.
5. The Company will make every effort to provide accurate and complete BNA data. The Company makes no warranties, expressed or implied, as to the accuracy or completeness of this information.
6. The Company will not disclose BNA information to parties other than intrastate service providers and their authorized billing agents. BNA disclosure is limited to those purposes as defined in 13.4.2.A.2. preceding.
7. The Company reserves the right to request from an intrastate service provider who has placed an order for BNA Service, the source data upon which the interexchange carrier has based the order. This request is made to ensure that the BNA information is to be used only for purposes as described in 13.4.2.A.2. preceding. The Company will not process the order until such time as the intrastate service provider supplies the requested data.

C. Obligations of the Customer

1. Each request for BNA information must identify both the Customer's authorized representative and the address to which the information is to be sent.
2. A Customer which intends to submit recorded messages via magnetic tape or electronic feed must provide the Company with an acceptable test tape or transmission which includes all call types for which BNA information may be requested.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 13  
ORIGINAL PAGE 8

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

13.4 Miscellaneous Services (Cont'd)

13.4.2 Billing Name and Address Service (Cont'd)

C. Obligations of the Customer

3. The Customer shall treat all BNA information as confidential. The Customer shall insure that BNA information is used only for the purposes as described in 13.4.2.A.2. preceding.
4. The Customer shall not publicize or represent to others that the Company jointly participates with the Customer in the development of the Customer's end user records it assembles through the use of BNA Service.
5. Upon request, the Customer will provide to the Company the source data upon which the Customer has based an order for BNA Service. The Company will not process the order until such time as the Customer provides the requested data.
6. The Company will not disclose BNA information to parties other than intrastate service providers and their authorized agents. BNA disclosure is limited to those purposes as defined in 13.4.2.A.2. preceding.
7. The Company reserves the right to request from an intrastate service provider who has placed an order for BNA Service, the source data upon which the interexchange carrier has based the order. This request is made to ensure that the BNA information is to be used only for purposes as described in 13.4.2.A.2. preceding. The Company will not process the order until such time as the intrastate service provider supplies the requested data.

D. Rate Regulations

1. A Service Establishment charge applies for the initial establishment of BNA Service for a Customer.
2. A Manual-BNA Request Charge applies in connection with written (fax and/or mail) requests for BNA information. The charge applies for each telephone number for which BNA information is requested.
3. A Mechanized-BNA Request Charge applies in connection with requests for BNA information received via magnetic tape or electronic feed. The charge applies for each telephone number for which BNA information is requested.
4. The Company will bill the Customer in accordance with 2. and 3. preceding regardless of whether or not the Company was able to provide BNA information for all requests.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 13  
ORIGINAL PAGE 9

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

13.4 Miscellaneous Services (Cont'd)

13.4.2 Billing Name and Address Service (Cont'd)

D. Rate Regulations (Cont'd)

5. Customer requests for BNA information which are non-standard are subject to Non-Standard-BNA Request Charges and Manual or Mechanized-BNA Request Charges as appropriate for the type of request. The additional Non-Standard-BNA Request Charge applies per BNA record requested. Additional Programming and Company-Provided Magnetic Tape Charges will also apply, if required to meet the Customer's request.

6. The rates for BNA Service are set forth in Rate Section following.

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 13  
ORIGINAL PAGE 10

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

13.4. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES (Cont'd)

13.4.3 Reserved for Future Use.

13.4.4. Toll Free (8YY) Data Base Service

Toll Free (8YY) Data Base Service is an originating offering, which provides a carrier identification function for numbers using Toll Free Service Access Codes (SACs). When a Toll Free Service number is originated by an End User, the Company will query the appropriate data base to perform the carrier identification function. For this service a Carrier Identification Charge as set forth in Rate Section will apply.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 13  
ORIGINAL PAGE 11

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

13.4. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES (Cont'd)

13.4.4. Toll Free (8YY) Data Base Service (Cont'd)



TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 13  
ORIGINAL PAGE 12

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

13.4. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES (Cont'd)

13.4.5. (Reserved For Future Use)

13.4.6. (Reserved For Future Use)

13.4.7. Provision of Access Service Billing Information

A. The Customer, upon request, has the option of receiving its primary monthly Access Service bill in one of the following standard medium, at no charge:

1. Paper
  - Detailed paper bill
2. Bill Data Record
  - Magnetic Tape
  - Electronic Data Transmission

B. In addition to the Customer's primary monthly Access, the Customer will be provided, upon request, an abbreviated paper bill, at no additional charge.

C. At the option of the Customer, and for an additional charge as set forth in Rate Section:

1. Additional hard copies of the monthly Access or Network Interconnection Service bill or service and features record may be provided on paper.
2. Additional Bill Data Record information may be provided on magnetic tape.
3. Additional Bill Data Record information may be transmitted to the Customer by electronic data transmission.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 13  
ORIGINAL PAGE 13

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

13.4. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES (Cont'd)

13.4.7. Provision of Access Service Billing Information

- D. The rules and regulations concerning payment arrangements and credit allowances described in Section 2.4. applies to all primary monthly Access Service bills, regardless of the chosen bill medium.
- E. Upon acceptance by the Company of a request for a change in the existing medium of the primary monthly Access Service bill data (e.g., paper to magnetic tape, magnetic tape to paper, or any of the previous two to electronic data transmission), and for an additional electronic data transmission, the Company, in cooperation with the Customer, will determine the interval required to implement the transmission of such material on an individual request basis.

The Customer requesting electronic data transmission shall be responsible for providing a data transmission system compatible with the Company transmission facilities.

- F. Regulations regarding electronic data transmission failure will apply as follows:
  - 1. In the event of transmission failure resulting from Company error, the Company will re-send a bill by electronic data transmission at no charge to the Customer. The bill payment due date will be negotiated between Company and Customer for this bill.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 13  
ORIGINAL PAGE 14

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES

13.4. MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES (Cont'd)

13.4.7. Provision of Access Service Billing Information (Cont'd)

F. (Cont'd)

2. In the event of transmission failure resulting from failure of the Customer's transmission line or other Customer error, the Company will re-send a bill by electronic data transmission at the same rates and charges as a request for an additional copy of the bill as set forth in Rate Section.
3. In the event that there are problems or disputes regarding receipt of the data transmission other than those outlined in (1) and (2) preceding, the Company will forward a duplicate bill on magnetic tape via overnight delivery. After investigation, if (2) preceding applies, the same rates and charges as a request for an additional copy of the bill will apply as set forth in Rate Section.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 14  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

14. RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 15  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

---

15. CALL COMPLETION ACCESS SERVICE

15.1. GENERAL

Call Completion Service provides for the capability of originating and terminating intrastate long distance calls to and from an end user's premises to a customer's facilities via the Company's switches.

15.1.1. Service Description

Call Completion is provided as a trunkside connection, Feature Group D (FGD), to Company switches with an associated Carrier Identification Code (CIC) for the customer's use in originating and terminating communications.

Originating traffic type represents capacity for carrying traffic from the end user to the customer; Terminating traffic represents capacity for carrying traffic from the customer to the end user.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 15  
ORIGINAL PAGE 2

## 15. CALL COMPLETION ACCESS SERVICE

### 15.2. RATE CATEGORIES

The two rate categories which apply are Switched Transport (described in 15.2.1. following) and the Call Completion Charge (described in 15.2.2. following).

#### 15.2.1. Switched Transport

Switched Transport is composed of Tandem-Switched Transport.

##### A. Reserved for Future Use.

##### B. Tandem-Switched Transport

Tandem-Switched Transport provides the transmission path from the SWC of the customer's premises to an end office utilizing tandem switching functions. Tandem Switched Transport consist of circuits dedicated to the use of a single customer from the customer's premises to the access tandem and circuits used in common by multiple customers.

Tandem-Switched Transport is composed of the following usage sensitive rate elements:

- The Tandem-Switched Transport Termination rate element, which includes the non-distance sensitive portion of the Tandem-Switched Transport. The fixed rate provides the circuit equipment at the end of the interoffice transmission links.
- The Tandem-Switched Transport Facility rate element, which includes the distance sensitive portion of the Tandem-Switched Transport. The per mile rate provides the transmission facilities, including intermediate transmission circuit equipment, between the end points of the interoffice circuits.
- The Tandem switching charges will also apply when the Company in a facilities-based environment provides tandem switching, or in an unbundled environment when the ILEC charges the Company for tandem switching.

The rates and charges applicable to Tandem-Switched Transport are listed in Section 17.15. Application of those rates and charges is as set forth in 15.3.1.B. following and in Section 2.4.8.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 15  
ORIGINAL PAGE 3

15. CALL COMPLETION ACCESS SERVICE

15.2. RATE CATEGORIES (Cont'd)

B. Tandem-Switched Transport (Cont'd)

15.2.2. End Office Call Completion

A. Originating End Office Call Completion Rate

The Originating End Office Call Completion rate category provides for the use of end office switching equipment, terminations for the end user lines terminating in the local end office, and for the termination of calls at a Company Intercept operator or recording when provided on Company switches or when provided using unbundled network elements.

The rates for the Originating Call Completion Charge are set forth in the Rate Section. The application of these rates is as set forth in 15.3.1.C. following.

B. Terminating End Office Call Completion Charge

The Terminating End Office Call Completion rate category provides for the use of end office switching equipment, terminations for the end user lines terminating in the local end office, and for the termination of calls at a Company Intercept operator or recording when provided on Company switches or when provided using unbundled network elements.

The Terminating Call Completion rate category provides the switching and End User termination functions necessary to complete the transmission of Calls to the Premises of the End User and to originate Toll Free (8YY) Calls from a End User to a Customer.

The rates for the Terminating Call Completion Charge are set forth in Rate Section. The application of these rates is as set forth in 15.3.1.C. following.

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ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 15  
ORIGINAL PAGE 4

15. CALL COMPLETION ACCESS SERVICE

15.3. RATE REGULATIONS

This section contains the specific regulations governing the rates and charges that apply to Call Completion.

15.3.1. Application of Rates and Charges

- A. Reserved for Future Use.
- B. Tandem-Switched Transport

Tandem-Switched Transport rates are usage sensitive. The rate application for the Tandem-Switched Transport rate element is described below.

1. Tandem-Switched Transport Termination Rate

The Tandem-Switched Transport Termination rate is assessed to all Access Minutes that are transported over Tandem-Switched Transport.

2. Tandem-Switched Facility Rate

The Tandem Switched Transport Facility rate is assessed on a per minute per mile basis to all Access Minutes that are transported over Tandem-Switched Transport. Tandem-Switched Facility mileages and charges are determined as set forth in 15.3.5. following.

3. Tandem Switching Rate

The Tandem Switching rate is assessed on a per minute basis to all Access Minutes when the Company in a facilities-based environment provides tandem switching, or when the ILEC charges the Company tandem-switching for UNE-P.



TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 15  
ORIGINAL PAGE 5

15. CALL COMPLETION ACCESS SERVICE

15.3. RATE REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

15.3.1. Application of Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

C. Call Completion Charge

The Call Completion Charge applies to all Access Minutes switched at a Company End Office.

15.3.2. Minimum Periods

The minimum periods for access are as set forth in Section 2.4.3.

15.3.3. Reserved for Future Use.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 15  
ORIGINAL PAGE 6

15. CALL COMPLETION ACCESS SERVICE

15.3. RATE REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

15.3.4. Measuring Access Minutes

Calls will be measured to determine the basis for computing chargeable Access Minutes. In the event the Customer call detail is not available because of lost or damaged tapes or recording system outages, the Company will estimate the volume of lost Customer Access Minutes based on previously known values.

The measured minutes for Calls are the chargeable Access Minutes.

Minutes or fractions thereof, the exact value of the fraction being a function of the switch technology where the measurement is made, are accumulated over the billing period for each Company End Office, and are then rounded up to the nearest Access Minute for each such End Office.

A. Usage Measurement

The measurement of Access Minutes begins when the recording switch receives answer supervision from the End User, indicating the End User has answered. The measurement of Access Minutes ends when the recording switch receives disconnect supervision from either the End User, indicating the End User has disconnected, or the Customer's Point of Termination, whichever is recognized first by the recording switch.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 15  
ORIGINAL PAGE 7

15. CALL COMPLETION ACCESS SERVICE

15.3. RATE REGULATIONS (Cont'd)

15.3.5. Mileage Measurement

The mileage to be used to determine Tandem-Switched Transport Facility mileage charges is calculated as set forth in A. and B. following.

- A. When Tandem-Switched Transport is utilized by the Customer between the Customer's Serving Wire Center and the End Office, the Tandem-Switched Transport Facility mileage is measured between the Customer's Serving Wire Center and the End Office.
- B. When direct transport is utilized by the Customer between the Customer's Serving Wire Center and the Access Tandem serving the End Office, the Tandem-Switched Transport Facility mileage is measured between such Access Tandem and End Office.

To determine the charge to be billed, first compute the mileage using the V&H coordinate method as set forth in Section 16.2. If the calculation results in a fraction of a mile, always round up to the next whole mile. Multiply the rounded mileage by (1) the Tandem-Switched Transport Facility rate, (2) the Access Minutes to be billed and (3) the applicable Meet Point Billing Percentage determined as set forth in Section 16.4.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 15  
ORIGINAL PAGE 8

15. CALL COMPLETION ACCESS SERVICE

15.4. Direct Connect Transport - ICB Arrangements

(Reserved For Future Use)

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 16  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

16. SERVICE AVAILABILITY AND RATING INFORMATION

16.1. GENERAL

This section contains service availability and rating information applicable to the Access Services offered under this tariff and is arranged as follows:

Section 16.2.V&H Coordinate Method of Determining Airline Mileage

Section 16.3.Service Availability and Wire Center Information

Section 16.4.Meet Point Billing Information

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 16  
ORIGINAL PAGE 2

16. SERVICE AVAILABILITY AND RATING INFORMATION

16.2. V&H COORDINATE METHOD OF DETERMINING AIRLINE MILEAGE

For Access Services and Network Interconnection Services provided under this tariff, the airline mileage between any two wire centers is determined as follows:

1. Obtain the "V" and "H" coordinates for each wire center from the NECA AT&T Business Services Guide.
2. Compute the difference between the "V" coordinates of the two wire centers; and the difference between the two "H" coordinates.
3. Square each difference obtained in step (2) above.
4. Add the square of the "V" difference and the square of the "H" difference obtained in step (3).
5. Divide the sum of the squares by 10. Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction is obtained.
6. Obtain the square root of the whole number result obtained above. Round to the next higher whole number if any fraction is obtained. This is the airline mileage.

7. Formula =  $(V1 - V2)^2 + (H1 - H2)^2$

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 16  
ORIGINAL PAGE 3

---

16. SERVICE AVAILABILITY AND RATING INFORMATION

16.3. SERVICE AVAILABILITY AND WIRE CENTER INFORMATION

16.3.1. (Reserved For Future Use)

16.3.2. Access Services Availability

Presubscription, Call Completion and Billing Name and Address  
Service (Section 13.4.2.) shall be offered at the locations  
listed below:

Areas within South Carolina served by BellSouth.

16.4. Meet Point Billing Information

The applicable billing percentage factors for Access Services that  
are provided by more than one telephone company are as set forth  
in the National Exchange Carrier Association (NECA) F.C.C. No. 4.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

1. GENERAL

This section contains the rates applicable to the Access Services and Network Interconnection Services offered in this tariff. The regulations applicable to these services are found in other sections of this tariff as follows:

<u>Rate Section</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Regulations Located In</u>
3	Reserved For Future Use	
4	Reserved For Future Use	
5	Reserved For Future Use	
6	Reserved For Future Use	
7	Reserved For Future Use	
8	Reserved For Future Use	
9	Reserved For Future Use	
10	Reserved For Future Use	
11	Reserved For Future Use	
12	Reserved For Future Use	
13	Additional Engineering, Labor and Miscellaneous Services	Section 13
14	Reserved For Future Use	
15	Call Completion Access Service	Section 15

For a more detailed listing of the contents of any of the sections listed above refer to the Table of Contents located in the front of each section.

17.2 Payment of Rates and Charges; Reciprocal Pricing

The regulations regarding the payment of rates and charges are set forth in Section E2.4 (Payment Arrangements and Credit Allowances).



TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 2

2. Payment of Rates and Charges; Reciprocal Pricing (Cont'd)

Notwithstanding any other provision of this tariff, with respect to any Customer that, on its own or through an Affiliate, provides services comparable to the services provided under this tariff to the Company within South Carolina, during any billing period, in the event that any of the applicable rates and charges set forth in this Section 17 are lower than comparable rates and charges in effect as of the last day prior to such billing period ("Customer Prices") offered or charged by the Customer or such Affiliate to the Company anywhere within South Carolina for services comparable to the services provided under this tariff, then, for such Customer, such rates and charges in this Section 17 may be increased by the Company to an amount equal to such Customer Prices.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 3

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 4

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 5

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 6

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 7

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 8

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 9

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 10

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 11

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 12

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 13

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 14

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 15

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES RATES

13.1. Reserved for Future Use.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 16

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES RATES  
(Cont'd)

13.2. Reserved for Future Use.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 17

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES RATES  
(Cont'd)

13.2. Reserved for Future Use.



TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 18

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES RATES  
(Cont'd)

13.2. Reserved for Future Use.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 19

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES RATES  
(Cont'd)

13.3. Miscellaneous Services Rates

- A. Reserved For Future Use
- B. Billing Name and Address Service

	<u>USOC</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Service Establishment Charge		
- Per account established	NRWBS	\$500.00
BNA Request Charges		
- Manual, per BNA record requested	SWCBM	\$ 1.05
- Mechanized, per BNA record requested	SWCBE	\$ .18
- Non-Standard, per BNA record requested (applies in addition to the Manual or Mechanized charge)	SWCBN	\$ .65
Additional Programming Charge		
- Per each half hour or fraction thereof	NRWPG	\$ 40.00
Company-Provided Magnetic Tape Charge		
- Per Magnetic Tape	MMXCT	\$ 25.00

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 20

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES RATES  
(Cont'd)

13.3. Miscellaneous Services Rates (Cont'd)

- C. (Reserved For Future Use)
- D. (Reserved For Future Use)
- E. (Reserved For Future Use)
- F. (Reserved For Future Use)

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 21

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES RATES  
(Cont'd)

13.3. Miscellaneous Services Rates (Cont'd)

G. Provision of Access Service Billing Information Rates

	<u>USOC</u>	<u>Rate</u>
- Additional hard copies of the Customer's monthly bill or service and features record on paper,		
- per page	UUUPB	\$.24
- Additional copies of Bill Data Record information in magnetic tape format,		
- per record*	MMXR3	\$.0029
- Additional Electronic Data Transmission to a Customer Premises of Bill Data Record information,		
- per record* transmitted	UUUED	\$.0005

\* A record is comprised of 225 bytes.

H. Toll Free (8YY) Data Base Service

	<u>Per Query Charge</u>
- Carrier Identification Charge	
- per query	\$.004

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 22

13. ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING, LABOR AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES RATES  
(Cont'd)

13.3. Miscellaneous Services Rates (Cont'd)

I. (Reserved For Future Use)

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 23

14. Reserved For Future Use

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

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PRICE LIST  
ORIGINAL PAGE 24

15. CALL COMPLETION ACCESS SERVICE RATES

15.1. Tandem-Switched Transport

A. Tandem-Switched Transport Termination

	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Per Access Minute	\$ .000310	\$ .00031	\$ .00041

B. Tandem-Switched Transport Facility

	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>
Per Access Minute per mile	\$ .000030	\$ .00003	\$ .00005

C. Tandem Switching

	<u>Rate</u>
Per Access Minute	.000387

15.2. End Office Call Completion Charge

A. Originating End Office Call Completion Charge

	<u>Rate</u>
Per Access Minute	\$ .028373

B. Terminating End Office Completion Charge

	<u>Rate</u>
Per Access Minute	\$ .044763

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

CONTENTS  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

MASTER TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION

Preface	Preface
1.	Application of Tariff
2.	General Regulations
3.	Reserved For Future Use
4.	Reserved For Future Use
5.	Reserved For Future Use
6.	Reserved For Future Use
7.	Reserved For Future Use
8.	Reserved For Future Use
9.	Reserved For Future Use
10.	Reserved For Future Use
11.	Reserved For Future Use
12.	Reserved For Future Use
13.	Miscellaneous Services
14.	Reserved For Future Use
15.	Call Completion Access Service
16.	Service Availability and Rating Information
	Price List



TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

INDEX  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

INDEX

SECTION

		Price List
		<u>Page</u>
Preface	Preface	
1.	Application of Tariff	
2.	General Regulations	
3.	Reserved For Future Use	3
4.	Reserved For Future Use	4
5.	Reserved For Future Use	5
6.	Reserved For Future Use	6
7.	Reserved For Future Use	7
8.	Reserved For Future Use	8
9.	Reserved For Future Use	9
10.	Reserved For Future Use	10-12
11.	Reserved For Future Use	13
12.	Reserved For Future Use	14
13.	Miscellaneous Services	15-22
14.	Reserved For Future Use	23
15.	Call Completion Access Service	24
16.	Service Availability and Rating Information	

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

PREFACE  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

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PREFACE

1. General

This tariff contains the regulations and rates applicable to Access Services.

2. Tariff Structure

This tariff is structured in a manner which separates regulations from rates. The regulations applicable to the services offered in this tariff are placed in sections in the forward part of the tariff, while the rates for those offerings are placed in a single rate section in the rear of the tariff, Section E17. References are provided in the service sections of the tariff to assist the tariff user in the location of rates. Similarly, the rate section contains a list of services with applicable rate section numbers.

To locate the section for a particular service, refer to the Master Table of Contents. If a more detailed listing of the material is required, refer to the tariff section Table of Contents.

3. Abbreviations and Definitions

Following is a list of the abbreviations used in the tariff. In addition, the General Regulations section contains a Definitions sub-section which defines certain technical terms which have a specific meaning within the context of this tariff. (See General Regulations, Section E2.6).

3.1 Explanation of Abbreviations

BNA - Billing Name and Address  
BP - Billing Percentage  
CLEC- Certified Local Exchange Carrier  
CLLI- Common Language Location Identifier  
CIC - Carrier Identification Code  
CO - Central Office  
CPE - Customer Provided Equipment  
FCC - Federal Communications Commission  
IC - Interexchange Carrier or Interexchange Common Carrier  
ICB - Individual Case Basis  
ILNP- Interim Local Number Portability  
LATA- Local Access and Transport Area  
LOA - Letter of Authorization  
Mbps- Megabits per second  
MECAB Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing  
MECOD Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design  
  
NIS - Network Interconnection Service  
NPA - Numbering Plan Area  
NXX - Three Digit Central Office Prefix  
PIU - Percent of Interstate Use  
PLSU- Percent Local Signaling Use  
PLU - Percent Local Usage  
POI - Point of Interconnection

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PREFACE  
ORIGINAL PAGE 2

PREFACE

3.1 Explanation of Abbreviations(Cont'd)

POT - Point of Termination  
SS7 - Signaling System 7  
STP - Signal Transfer Point  
SWC - Serving Wire Center  
U.S.- United States  
USOC- Uniform Service Order Code  
V&H - Vertical and Horizontal

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

PREFACE  
ORIGINAL PAGE 3

PREFACE

4. Explanation of Symbols

Revisions to this tariff are coded through the use of symbols. These symbols appear in the right margin of the page. The symbols and their meanings are:

- C - To signify changed regulation.
- D - To signify discontinued rate or regulation.
- I - To signify increase.
- N - To signify new rate or regulation.
- R - To signify reduction.
- T - To signify a change in text but no change in rate or regulation.

Other marginal codes are used to direct the tariff reader to a footnote for specific information. These codes appear in the right margin. Examples of these codes are "L" or "M" which indicate text has been relocated to or from another page or section of the tariff.

5. Trademarks and Service Marks

The following marks, to the extent, if any, used throughout this tariff, are trademarks or service marks of TC SYSTEMS, INC.

Trademarks

NONE

Service Marks

NONE

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

PREFACE  
ORIGINAL PAGE 4

## PREFACE

### 6. Tariff Format

#### 6.1 Page Numbering

Page numbers appear in the upper-right corner of the page. Pages are numbered sequentially. When a new page is added between existing pages with whole numbers, a decimal is added. For example, a new page added between pages 34 and 35 would be 34.1.

#### 6.2 Page Revision Numbers

Revision numbers also appear in the upper-right corner of the page. These numbers are used to determine the most current page version on file with the Commission. For example, the 4th revised page 34 cancels the 3rd revised page 34.

#### 6.3 Section Numbering Sequence

There are eight levels of alpha-numeric coding used in the tariff. Each Level is subservient to its next higher level. The following is an example of the numbering sequence used.

- 1. (Level 1)
  - 1.1 (Level 2)
    - 1.1.1 (Level 3)
      - A. (Level 4)
        - 1. (Level 5)
          - a. (Level 6)
            - (1) (Level 7)
              - (a) (Level 8)

#### 6.4 References to Other Tariffs

Whenever reference is made to other tariffs, the reference is to the tariffs in force as of the effective date of the reference, and to amendments thereto and successive issues thereof.

### 7. Technical Publication Information

The issue and availability dates of the Technical Publications referenced in this tariff are as follows:

Publication Number	Issue Date	Date Available to Public
NONE		

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 1  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

1. APPLICATION OF THE TARIFF

1.1 Application

1.1.1 General

This tariff contains regulations, rates and charges applicable to the provision of Intrastate Access Services and Network Interconnection Services provided to Customers by TC SYSTEMS, INC, hereinafter referred to as the Company.

The provision of such services by the Company as set forth in this tariff does not constitute a joint undertaking with the Customer for the furnishing of any service.

The locations served by the Company and the services available are as set forth in Section 16.3.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 1

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company

2.1.1 Scope

- A. The Company does not undertake to transmit messages under this tariff.
- B. The Company shall be responsible only for the installation, operation and maintenance of the services it provides.
- C. The Company will, for maintenance purposes, test its service only to the extent necessary to detect and/or clear troubles.
- D. Services are provided 24 hours daily, seven days per week, except as set forth in other applicable sections of this tariff.
- E. The Company does not warrant that its facilities and services meet standards other than those set forth in this tariff.
- F. With respect to unbundled network elements, the Company shall not be responsible for the facilities used to provide such services, including installation, operation, maintenance, testing, trouble handling, or performance of such facilities.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 2

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)

#### 2.1.2 Limitations

##### A. Assignment or Transfer of Services

The Customer may assign or transfer the use of services provided under this tariff only where there is no interruption of use or relocation of the services. Such assignment or transfer may be made to:

1. another Customer, whether an individual, partnership, association or corporation, provided the assignee or transferee assumes all outstanding indebtedness for such services, and the unexpired portion of the minimum period and the termination liability applicable to such services, if any; or
2. a court-appointed receiver, trustee or other person acting pursuant to law in bankruptcy, receivership, reorganization, insolvency, liquidation or other similar proceedings, provided the assignee or transferee assumes the unexpired portion of the minimum period and the termination liability applicable to such services, if any.

In all cases of assignment or transfer, the written acknowledgment of the Company is required prior to such assignment or transfer. This acknowledgment shall be made within 15 days from receipt of written notification.

All regulations and conditions contained in this tariff shall apply to such assignee or transferee.

The assignment or transfer of services does not relieve or discharge the assignor or transferor from remaining jointly or severally liable with the assignee or transferee for any obligations existing at the time of the assignment or transfer.

##### B. Use and Restoration of Services

The use and restoration of services shall be in accordance with Part 64, Subpart D, Appendix A, of the Federal Communications Commission's Rules and Regulations, which specifies the priority system for such activities.



TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 3

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)

2.1.2 Limitations (Cont'd)

C. Reserved for Future Use.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 4

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)

#### 2.1.3 Liability

##### A. Limits of Liability

The Company's liability, if any, for its willful misconduct is not limited by this tariff. With respect to any other claim or suit, by a Customer or by any others, for damages associated with the installation, provision, termination, maintenance, repair or restoration of service, the Company's liability, if any, shall not exceed an amount equal to the proportionate charge for the service for the period during which the service was affected.

##### B. Acts or Omissions

The Company shall not be liable for any act or omission of any other carrier or Customer providing a portion of a service, nor shall the Company for its own act or omission hold liable any other carrier or Customer providing a portion of a service.

##### C. Damages to Customer Premises

The Company is not liable for damages to the Customer premises or any End User premises resulting from the furnishing of a service, including the installation and removal of equipment and associated wiring, unless the damage is caused by the Company's negligence.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 5

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)

2.1.3 Liability (Cont'd)

D. Explosive Atmospheres

The Company does not guarantee or make any warranty with respect to its services when used in an explosive atmosphere. The Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by the Customer from any and all claims by any person relating to such Customer's use of services so provided.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 6

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)

2.1.3 Liability (Cont'd)

E. No License Granted

No license under patents (other than the limited license to use) is granted by the Company or shall be implied or arise by estoppel, with respect to any service offered under this tariff. The Company will defend the Customer against claims of patent infringement arising solely from the use by the Customer of services offered under this tariff and will indemnify such Customer for any damages awarded based solely on such claims.

F. Circumstances Beyond the Company's Control

The Company's failure to provide or maintain services under this tariff shall be excused by labor difficulties, governmental orders, civil commotions, criminal actions taken against the Company, acts of God and other circumstances beyond the Company's reasonable control.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 7

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)

2.1.4. Provision of Services

The Company will provide to the Customer, at the Customer's request upon reasonable notice, services offered in this tariff. Services will be made available to the extent that such services are or can be made available with reasonable effort, and the Company determines in its discretion that sufficient capacity and facilities are available to allow for the provision of such services.

2.1.5. Reserved for Future Use.

2.1.6. Reserved for Future Use.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 8

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)

#### 2.1.6. Reserved For Future Use.

#### 2.1.7. Changes and Substitutions

Except as provided for equipment and systems subject to FCC Part 68 Regulations at 47 C.F.R. Section 68.110(b), the Company may, where such action is reasonably required in the operation of its business, substitute, change or rearrange any Company facilities used in providing service under this tariff. Such actions may include, without limitation:

- substitution of fiber or optical facilities,
- change of minimum protection criteria,
- change of operating or maintenance characteristics of facilities, or
- change of operations or procedures of the Company.

In case of any such substitution, change or rearrangement, the transmission parameters will be within the range set forth in applicable sections of this tariff. The Company shall not be responsible if any such substitution, change or rearrangement renders any Customer furnished services obsolete or requires modification or alteration thereof or otherwise affects their use or performance. If such substitution, change or rearrangement materially affects the operating characteristics of the facility, the Company will provide reasonable notification to the Customer in writing. Reasonable time will be allowed for any redesign and implementation required by the change in operating characteristics. The Company will work cooperatively with the Customer to determine reasonable notification procedures.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 9

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)

#### 2.1.8. Refusal and Discontinuance of Service

- A. If a Customer fails to comply with 2.1.6. preceding or 2.3.1., 2.3.4., 2.3.5., 2.4. or 2.5. following including any Customer's failure to make payments on the date and times therein specified, the Company may, on thirty (30) days written notice to the Customer, take the following actions:

- refuse additional applications for service from the Customer and/or;
- refuse to complete any pending service orders from the Customer, and/or;
- discontinue the provision of service to the Customer.

In the case of discontinuance all applicable charges, including termination charges, shall become due.

- B. If a Customer or Customer's End User fails to comply with 2.2.2. following, the Company may, on its own initiative or upon written request from a Customer, an End User or another Carrier, terminate service to any End User or Customer identified as having utilized service provided under this tariff in the completion of abusive or unlawful telephone calls. Service shall be terminated by the Company as provided for in its local exchange service tariffs.

In such instances when termination occurs pursuant to a request, the Company shall be indemnified, defended and held harmless by any Customer, End User or other Carrier requesting termination of service against any suit, claim, loss or damage, including punitive damages, attorney fees and court costs, arising out of the Company's actions in terminating such service, unless caused by the Company's sole negligence.

- C. Except as provided for equipment or systems subject to the FCC Part 68 Rules in 47 C.F.R. Section 68.108, if the Customer fails to comply with 2.2.1 following, the Company will, where practicable, notify the Customer that temporary discontinuance of the use of a service may be required; however, where prior notice is not practicable, the Company may temporarily discontinue service forthwith if such action is reasonable in the circumstances. In case of such temporary discontinuance, the Customer will be notified promptly and afforded the opportunity to correct the condition which gave rise to the temporary discontinuance.
- D. If the Company does not refuse additional applications for service and/or does not discontinue the provision of the services as specified for herein, and the Customer's noncompliance continues, nothing contained herein shall preclude the Company's right to refuse additional applications for service and/or to discontinue the provision of the services to the non-complying Customer without further notice.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 10

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)

- E. The Company may immediately, and without notice, discontinue the furnishing of any and/or all services to the Customer if the Company deems that such action is necessary to prevent or protect against fraud or to otherwise protect its personnel, agents, other customers, facilities or services. The Company may discontinue service under this Section 2.1.8.E, if the Company determines that a Customer is using, or attempting to use, the services with the intent to avoid the payment, either in whole or in part, of any of the Company's tariffed charges by:

- Using or attempting to use service by rearranging, tampering with, or making connections not authorized by this tariff to the Company's service, or
- Using fraudulent means or devices, tricks, false or invalid numbers, false credit devices, or electronic devices, whether directed at the Company or others, or
- Using any fraudulent means or devices.

#### 2.1.9. Notification of Service-Affecting Activities

The Company will provide the Customer reasonable notification of service-affecting activities that may occur in the normal operation of its business. Such activities may include, but are not limited to the following:

- equipment or facilities additions,
- removal or rearrangements,
- routine preventative maintenance, and
- major switching machine change-out

Generally, such activities are not individual Customer service specific, but may affect many Customer services. No specific advance notification period is applicable to all service activities. The Company will work cooperatively with the Customer to determine reasonable notification requirements.

#### 2.1.10. Coordination with Respect to Network Contingencies

The Company intends to work cooperatively with the Customer to develop network contingency plans in order to maintain maximum network capability following natural or man-made disasters which affect telecommunications services.



ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 11

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.1 Undertaking of the Company (Cont'd)

#### 2.1.11. Provision and Ownership of Telephone Numbers

The Company reserves the right to assign, designate or change telephone numbers, any other call number designations associated with services provided under this tariff, or the Company serving central office prefixes associated with such numbers, when necessary in the conduct of its business. Should it become necessary for the Company to make a change in such number(s), the Company will furnish to the Customer six (6) months notice, by Certified US mail of the effective date and an explanation of the reason(s) for such change(s).

#### 2.1.12. Network Management

The Company will administer its network to insure the provision of acceptable service levels to all telecommunications users of the Company's network services. Generally, service levels are considered acceptable only when both End Users and Customers are able to establish connections with little or no delay encountered within the Company network. The Company maintains the right to apply protective controls over any traffic carried over its network, including that associated with Access Services or Network Interconnection Services. Generally, protective measures (such as those actions which selectively cancel the completion of traffic) would only be taken as a result of occurrences such as failure or overload of Company or Customer facilities, natural disasters, mass calling or national security demands.

#### 2.1.13. Reserved for Future Use.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 12

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.2 Use

#### 2.2.1. Interference or Impairment

The characteristics and methods of operation of any circuits, facilities or equipment provided by other than the Company and associated with the facilities utilized to provide services under this tariff shall not:

- interfere with or impair service over any facilities of the Company, its affiliated companies, or its connecting and concurring carriers involved in its services,
- cause damage to their plant,
- impair the privacy of any communications carried over their facilities, or
- create hazards to the employees of any of them or to the public.

#### 2.2.2 Unlawful and Abusive Use

The service provided under this tariff shall not be used for an unlawful purpose or used in an abusive manner.

Abusive use includes:

- The use of the service of the Company for a call or calls, anonymous or otherwise, in a manner reasonably expected to frighten, abuse, torment, or harass another;
- The use of the service in such a manner as to interfere with the use of the service by one or more other Customers or End Users.

### 2.3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER

#### 2.3.1. Reserved for Future Use

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 13

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER (Cont'd)

2.3.2. Reserved for Future Use.

2.3.3. Reserved for Future Use.

2.3.4. Reserved for Future Use.

2.3.5. Reserved for Future Use.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 14

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER (Cont'd)

2.3.6. References to the Company

The Customer may advise End Users that certain services are provided by the Company in connection with the service the Customer furnishes to End Users; however, the Customer shall not represent that the Company jointly participates in the Customer's services.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 15

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER (Cont'd)

#### 2.3.7. Indemnification of the Company

##### A. By the Customer

1. With respect to claims of patent infringement made by third persons, the Customer shall defend, indemnify, protect and save harmless the Company from and against all claims arising out of the combining with, or use in connection with, the services provided under this tariff, any circuit, apparatus, system or method provided by the Customer.
2. The Customer shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the Company from and against any suits, claims, losses and damages, including punitive damages, attorney fees and court costs by third persons arising out of the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, or removal of the Customer's circuits, facilities, or equipment connected to the Company's services provided under this tariff including, without limitation, Worker's Compensation claims, actions for infringement of copyright and/or unauthorized use of program material, libel and slander actions based on the content of communications transmitted over the Customer's circuits, facilities or equipment, and proceedings to recover taxes, fines, or penalties for failure of the Customer to obtain or maintain in effect any necessary certificates, permits, licenses, or other authority to acquire or operate the services provided under this tariff; provided, however, the foregoing indemnification shall not apply to suits, claims, and demands to recover damages for damage to property, death, or personal injury unless such suits, claims or demands are based on the tortious conduct of the Customer, its officers, agents or employees.
3. The Customer shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the Company from and against any suits, claims, losses or damages, including punitive damages, attorney fees and court costs by the Customer or third parties arising out of any act or omission of the Customer in the course of using services provided under this tariff.

##### B. By the End User

1. With respect to claims of patent infringement made by third persons, the End User shall defend, indemnify, protect and save harmless the Company from and against all claims arising out of the combining with, or use in connection with, the services provided under this tariff, any circuit, apparatus, system or method provided by the End User.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 16

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER (Cont'd)

2. The End User shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the Company from and against any suits, claims, losses and damages, including punitive damages, attorney fees and court costs by third persons arising out of the construction, installation, operation, maintenance, or removal of the End User's circuits, facilities, or equipment connected to the Company's services provided under this tariff including, without limitation, Worker's Compensation claims, actions for infringement of copyright and/or unauthorized use of program material, libel and slander actions based on the content of communications transmitted over the End User's circuits, facilities or equipment, and proceedings to recover taxes, fines, or penalties for failure of the End User to obtain or maintain in effect any necessary certificates, permits, licenses, or other authority to acquire or operate the services provided under this tariff; provided, however, the foregoing indemnification shall not apply to suits, claims, and demands to recover damages for damage to property, death, or personal injury unless such suits, claims or demands are based on the tortious conduct of the End User, its officers, agents or employees.
3. The End User shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the Company from and against any suits, claims, losses or damages, including punitive damages, attorney fees and court costs by the End User or third parties arising out of any act or omission of the End User in the course of using services provided under this tariff.

#### 2.3.8. Coordination with Respect to Network Contingencies

The Customer shall, in cooperation with the Company, coordinate in planning the actions to be taken to maintain maximum network capability following natural or man-made disasters which affect telecommunications services.

#### 2.3.9. Jurisdictional Report Requirements

##### A. General

The Company cannot in all cases determine the jurisdictional nature of Customer traffic and its related minutes of use. In such cases the Customer shall be requested to provide a projected estimate of its split between the intrastate and interstate jurisdictions. The following regulations govern such estimates and their reporting by the Customer.

Pursuant to Federal Communications Commission Order FCC 85-145 released April 16, 1985, interstate usage is to be developed as though every call that enters a Customer network at a point within the same state as that in which the called station (as designated by the called station telephone number) is situated is an intrastate communication and every call for which the point of entry is a state other than that where the called station (as designated by the called station telephone number) is situated is an interstate communication.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 17

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER (Cont'd)

#### 1. Jurisdictional Reports

When the Company is unable to determine the jurisdictional nature of the Customer's traffic, the Customer shall report the Percent of Interstate Use (PIU) by LATA and such report will be used for billing purposes.

Effective on the first of January, April, July and October of each year the Customer shall update the jurisdictional report. The Customer shall forward to the Company, to be received no later than twenty (20) days after the first of each such month, a revised report showing the intrastate and interstate percent of use for the past 12 months ending the last day of December, March, June and September, respectively for each LATA. The revised report will serve as the basis for the next three (3) months billing and will be effective on the bill date for that service. No prorating or back billing will be done based on the revised report.

If the Customer does not supply the jurisdictional reports, the Company may deem the Customer to have reported percentages that are the same as those provided in the last quarterly report. For those cases in which a quarterly report has never been received from the Customer, the Company may deem the Customer to have reported percentages that are the same as those provided in the order for service. Absent percentages supplied (or deemed by the Company to have been supplied) by the Customer, the Company will, only for that portion of the Customer's usage for which the Company is unable to determine the appropriate jurisdiction, bill the Customer's usage at the jurisdictional rate which produces the highest charge. This default billing procedure will remain in effect until the Customer: provides call detail information to the Company pursuant to 2.3.11 following (if the provision of such information would permit the Company to determine jurisdiction), supplies the necessary jurisdictional percentages, or agrees with the Company on an alternate default billing procedure.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 18

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER (Cont'd)

#### 2.3.9. Jurisdictional Report Requirements (Cont'd)

##### B. Jurisdictional Audits

The Customer shall keep sufficient detail from which the percentages of use reported to the Company (or deemed by the Company to have been reported) can be verified and upon request of the Company make such records available for inspection and audit. The Customer shall supply the required data to the Company within 30 calendar days of the Company request. The Customer must maintain these records for 24 months from the date the report became effective for billing purposes.

Initiation of an audit will be at the sole discretion of the Company. The audit shall be performed by an independent party selected by the Company. An audit may be initiated by the Company for a single Customer no more than once per year.

In the event that an inspection or audit reveals that any Customer reported percentages of use were incorrect, the Company shall apply the inspection or audit result to all usage affected by the inspection or audit. The Customer shall be back billed or credited, for a period retroactive to the date that the incorrect percentage was reported, but not to exceed 24 months. Back billed amounts are subject to a late payment penalty as set forth in 2.4.2.C. following.

Should an audit reveal that the misreported percentage(s) of use has resulted in an underpayment of charges to the Company of five (5) percent or more of the total Access Services or Network Interconnection Services bill, the Customer shall reimburse the Company for the cost of the audit. Proof of cost shall be bills, in reasonable detail, submitted to the Company by the auditor.

Within 15 days of completion of the auditor's report, the Company will furnish a copy of the audit results to the person designated by the Customer to receive such results.



ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 19

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER (Cont'd)

#### 2.3.10. Determination of Charges for Mixed Intrastate, Interstate and/or Local Usage

##### Usage Sensitive Rate Elements

When the Customer's usage has mixed intrastate and interstate traffic, for that portion of the usage for which the Company is unable to determine the appropriate jurisdiction, the usage charges will be prorated between the intrastate and interstate. The jurisdictional percentages or default procedure set forth in 2.3.9. preceding, will serve as the basis for prorating the charges.

##### Monthly and Nonrecurring Chargeable Rate Elements

When the jurisdiction of the rate element can be determined by the Company the charges applicable to the appropriate jurisdiction will be applied. Rate elements for which the Company cannot determine the appropriate jurisdiction will be prorated between intrastate and interstate. The jurisdictional percentages or default procedure set forth in 2.3.9. preceding, will serve as the basis for prorating the charges.

#### 2.3.11. SS7 Signaling; Call Detail Information

##### A. SS7 Signaling

The Customer will use SS7 signaling to set up Calls pursuant to this tariff. The Customer shall provide Calling Party Number (CPN) within the SS7 signaling message, if available. If it is technically infeasible for the Customer to use SS7, multi-frequency (MF) signaling shall be used by the Customer. The Customer may elect to arrange for signaling connectivity through a third party provider which is connected to the Company's SS7 network.

##### B. Call Detail Information

To the extent not provided pursuant to A. preceding, the Customer shall, to the extent technically feasible and consistent with industry standards, cause to be transmitted to the Company with each Call information sufficient to identify the originating and terminating telephone numbers for such Call and each Carrier (including the Customer) with respect to such Call.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 20

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER (Cont'd)

#### 2.3.12. Supervisory Signaling

The Customer's facilities connected to Access Service shall provide the necessary On-hook, Off-hook, answer and disconnect supervision.

#### 2.3.13. Reserved for Future Use.

#### 2.3.14. Sales, Use and Other Taxes/Charges

The Customer is responsible for the payment of its portion of any sales, use, gross receipts, excise, franchise, access or other local, state and federal taxes, charges or surcharges (however designated), excluding taxes on the Company's net income, imposed on or based upon the provision, sale or use of services.

If the Company becomes liable for any sales, use, gross receipts, excise, franchise, access or other local, state or federal taxes, charges or surcharges (however designated), excluding taxes on the Company's net income, which are imposed on or based upon the provision, sale or use of services, and which are in addition to such taxes, charges or surcharges already specified in this tariff, in such event the Customer shall be responsible for payment of such taxes, charges or surcharges from the date that the Company first became liable for same.

In the event of any dispute over the lawfulness of any tax, charge or surcharge, the Company may elect to impose such tax, charge or surcharge during such dispute, unless otherwise ordered by a court or other lawful authority with jurisdiction. The Company shall credit or refund any funds thus collected, if ordered to do so by such court or other lawful authority if such funds were retained by the Company, or were returned to the Company by the taxing jurisdiction which imposed such tax charge or surcharge.

#### 2.3.15. Settlements Through Other Carriers

Where traffic is transmitted through the facilities of another Carrier, including the Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier, the Company and the Customer may permit such other Carrier to act on their behalf for billing and settlements relating to such traffic.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 21

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.3. OBLIGATIONS OF THE CUSTOMER (Cont'd)

2.3.15. Settlements Through Other Carriers (Cont'd)

In certain circumstances, the Company makes arrangements with another carrier (an "Intermediate Carrier") under which the Intermediate Carrier will provide services that may include, without limitation, data base, switching and/or transport services in connection with Calls and is authorized by the Company to bill the Customer for all access services under the Intermediate Carrier's tariff as if all such services had been provided by the Intermediate Carrier. Where such arrangements are in effect, the terms and conditions governing payment (including applicable rates and charges) for services shall be governed by the applicable tariff of the Intermediate Carrier (or other arrangement in effect between the Intermediate Carrier and the Customer), rather than this Tariff

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 22

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.4. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES

#### 2.4.1. Description of Rates and Charges

There are three types of rates and charges that can apply to Access Services. These are monthly recurring rates, usage rates and nonrecurring charges. These rates and charges are applied differently to the various rate elements as set forth in applicable sections of this tariff. Other charges may also apply as set forth in D. following.

##### A. Monthly Rates

Monthly rates are flat recurring rates that apply each month or fraction thereof that a specific rate element is provided. For billing purposes, each month is considered to have thirty (30) days.

##### B. Usage Rates

Usage rates are rates that apply only when a specific rate element is used. These are applied on a per occurrence (e.g., access minute or query) basis. Usage rates are accumulated over a monthly period.

##### C. Nonrecurring Charges

Nonrecurring charges are one-time charges that apply for a specific work activity (i.e., installation of new services or rearrangements of installed services).

#### 1. Installation of Service

The nonrecurring charges applicable to the installation of Access Services are applied on a per facility, trunk or other basis as specified in Section 17. In addition, certain nonrecurring charges may consist of "first" and "additional" charges. When charges are listed in this manner, the "first" charge applies to the first facility or trunk specified on the order, with the "additional" charge applied to each additional facility or trunk specified on the same order.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 23

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.4. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (Cont'd)

2.4.1. Description of Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

C. Nonrecurring Charges (Cont'd)

2. Reserved for Future Use.

3. Reserved for Future Use.

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 24

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.4. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (Cont'd)

2.4.1. Description of Rates and Charges (Cont'd)

C. Nonrecurring Charges (Cont'd)

4. Reserved for Future Use.

5. Reserved for Future Use.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 25

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.4. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (Cont'd)

#### 2.4.2. Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits

##### A. Deposits

The Company will only require a Customer which has a proven history of late payments to the Company or does not have established credit, to make a deposit prior to or at any time after the provision of a service to the Customer. No such deposit will be required of a Customer which is a successor of a Company which has established credit and has no history of late payments to the Company. Such deposit will not exceed the actual or estimated rates and charges for the service for a two (2) month period. The fact that a deposit has been made in no way relieves the Customer from complying with the Company's regulations as to the prompt payment of bills. At such time as the provision of the service to the Customer is terminated, the amount of the deposit will be credited to the Customer's account and any credit balance which may remain will be refunded.

Such a deposit will be refunded or credited to the account when the Customer has established credit or, in any event after the Customer has established a one-year prompt payment record at any time prior to the termination of the provision of the service to the Customer. In case of a cash deposit, for the period the deposit is held by the Company, the Customer will receive simple interest at the rate of six percent annually unless a different rate has been established by the appropriate legal authority in the state where the service(s) is provided, in which case that rate will apply.

Interest will accrue from the date the Customer deposit is received by the Company to and including the date such deposit is credited to the Customer's account or the date the deposit is refunded by the Company. Should a deposit be credited to the Customer's account, as indicated above, no interest will accrue on the deposit from the date such deposit is credited to the Customer's account.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 26

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.4. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (Cont'd)

#### 2.4.2. Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

##### B. Bill Dates

The Company shall bill on a current basis all charges incurred by and credits due to the Customer under this tariff attributable to services established or discontinued during the preceding billing period. In addition, the Company shall bill in advance charges for all services to be provided during the ensuing billing period except for charges associated with service usage and for the Federal Government which will be billed in arrears. The bill day (i.e., the billing date of a bill for a Customer for Access Service under this tariff), the period of service each bill covers and the payment date will be as follows:

##### 1. (Reserved For Future Use)

##### 2. Access Service

Unless otherwise provided in this tariff, for Access Service, the Company will establish a bill day each month for each Customer account or advise the Customer in writing of an alternate billing schedule. Alternate billing schedules shall not be established on less than sixty (60) days notice or initiated by the Company more than twice in any consecutive twelve (12) month period.



ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 27

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.4. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (Cont'd)

#### 2.4.2. Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

##### B. Bill Dates (Cont'd)

##### 2. Access Services (Cont'd)

The bill will cover non-usage sensitive service charges for the ensuing billing period for which the bill is rendered, any known unbilled non-usage sensitive charges for prior periods and unbilled usage charges for the period after the last bill day through the current bill day. Any known unbilled usage charges for prior periods and any known unbilled adjustments will be applied to this bill. Payment for such bills is due in immediately available funds in US dollars by the payment date, as set forth in C. following. If payment is not received by the payment date, a late payment penalty will apply as set forth in C. following.

Notwithstanding the above, bills will not be issued for amounts under \$105.00. In such cases Customer billing will be held until the total amount of the bill equals or exceeds \$105.00 or the Customer discontinues its service with the Company.

##### C. Payment Dates and Late Payment Charge

1. All bills dated as set forth in B. 2. preceding, provided to the Customer by the Company are due thirty (30) days (payment date) after the bill day or by the next bill date (i.e., same date in the following month as the bill date), whichever is the shortest interval, except as provided herein, and are payable in immediately available funds in U.S. dollars. If the Customer does not receive a bill at least twenty (20) days prior to the 30 day payment due date, then the bill shall be considered delayed. When the bill has been delayed, upon request of the Customer the due date will be extended by the number of days the bill was delayed. Such request of the Customer must be accompanied with proof of late bill receipt.

If such payment date would cause payment to be due on a Saturday, Sunday or Legal Holiday, payment for such bills will be due from the Customer as follows:

If the payment date falls on a Sunday or on a Legal Holiday which is observed on a Monday, the payment date shall be the first non-Holiday day following such Sunday or Legal Holiday.

If the payment date falls on a Saturday or on a Legal Holiday which is observed on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, the payment date shall be the last non-Holiday day preceding such Saturday or Legal Holiday.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 28

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.4. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (Cont'd)

#### 2.4.2. Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

##### C. Payment Dates and Late Payment Charge (Cont'd)

2. Further, if no payment is received by the payment date or if a payment or any portion of a payment is received by the Company after the payment date as set forth in 1. preceding, or if a payment or any portion of a payment is received by the Company in funds which are not Immediately Available funds in U.S. dollars, then subject to billing and systems availability, a Late Payment Charge shall be due to the Company. The Late Payment Charge shall be the payment or the portion of the payment in excess of \$25.00 not received by the payment date times a late factor. The late factor shall be 1.5% per month unless an applicable law or regulation specifies a lower interest rate to be charged or portion thereof applied from the 31<sup>st</sup> Calendar day after the payment date to and including the date that the Company actually receives the payment. The Late Payment Charge shall be assessed monthly, based on the delinquent balance maintained on the account at the time.

##### D. Billing Disputes Resolved in Favor of the Company

In the event that a Customer disputes all or part of the billed amount, the Customer shall pay the disputed amount in full pending resolution of the dispute unless the Company determines, in its sole discretion, that there is an adequate deposit in respect of such disputed amount. In the event that the Company does not require the Customer to pay the disputed amount in full pending resolution of the dispute, Late Payment Charges will not apply to amounts withheld pending settlement of the dispute. If the Company sustains the charges after investigating the dispute, the applicable Late Payment Charge will apply and shall be deemed correct and binding on the Customer. If, alternatively, the Company credits the charges after investigating the dispute, the Late Payment Charge will not apply.

##### E. Billing Disputes Resolved in Favor of the Customer

If the Customer pays the total billed amount and disputes all or part of the amount, the Company will refund any overpayment. In addition, the Company will pay to the Customer penalty interest on the overpayment. When a claim is filed ninety (90) days after the due date, the penalty interest period shall begin on the payment date. When a claim is filed more than ninety (90) days after the due date, the penalty interest period shall begin from the date of the claim or the date of overpayment, whichever is later.

The penalty interest period shall end on the date that the Company actually renders the overpayment to the Customer. The penalty interest rate shall be the rate set forth in C. 2. preceding.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 29

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.4. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (Cont'd)

#### 2.4.2. Payment of Rates, Charges and Deposits (Cont'd)

##### F. Proration of Charges

Adjustments for the quantities of services established or discontinued in any billing period beyond the minimum period will be prorated to the number of days based on a thirty (30) day month. The Company will, upon request, furnish within thirty (30) days of a request and at no charge to the Customer such detailed information as may reasonably be required for verification of any bill.

##### G. Rounding of Charges

When a rate as set forth in this tariff is shown to be more than two decimal places, the charges will be determined using the rate shown. The resulting total amount will then be rounded to the nearest penny (i.e., rounded to two decimal places).

#### 2.4.3. Minimum Periods

The minimum period for which services are provided and for which rates and charges are applicable is one month except as otherwise specified. Usage rated services (e.g., Tandem-Switched Transport) have no minimum period.

When a service is discontinued prior to the expiration of the minimum period, charges are applicable, whether the service is used or not. The applicable charge will be the total monthly charges, at the rate level in effect at the time service is discontinued, for the remainder of the minimum period plus any usage, nonrecurring and/or Special Construction charge(s) that may be due.

#### 2.4.4. Reserved for Future Use

#### 2.4.5. Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions

##### A. General

A service is interrupted when it becomes unusable to the Customer because of a failure of a facility or component used to furnish service under this tariff or in the event that the protective controls applied by the Company as set forth in 2.1.12. preceding result in the complete loss of service by the Customer. An interruption period starts when an inoperative service is reported to the Company, and ends when the service is operative.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 30

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.4. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (Cont'd)

#### 2.4.5. Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

##### B. When a Credit Allowance Applies

In case of an interruption to any service, allowance for the period of interruption shall be provided unless one or more of the conditions set forth in Section 2.4.5.C. applies.

##### 1. Credit Allowance Computation

For flat rated Access Service rate elements, no credit shall be allowed for an interruption of less than thirty (30) minutes. The Customer shall be credited for an interruption of thirty (30) minutes or more at the rate of 1/1440 of the monthly charges for the facility or service for each period of thirty (30) minutes or Major Fraction Thereof that the interruption continues.

The monthly charges used to determine the credit shall be the total of all the monthly rate element charges associated with the service.

##### 2. Credit Allowances Cannot Exceed Monthly Charges

The credit allowance(s) for an interruption or for a series of interruptions shall not exceed the monthly recurring rate for the service interrupted in any one billing period.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 31

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.4. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (Cont'd)

#### 2.4.5. Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

##### C. When a Credit Allowance Does Not Apply

No credit allowance will be made for:

1. Interruptions caused by the negligence of the Customer.
2. Interruptions of a service due to the failure of equipment or systems provided by the Customer or others.
3. Interruptions of a service during any period in which the Company is not afforded access to the premises where the service is terminated.
4. Interruptions of a service when the Customer has released that service to the Company for maintenance purposes, to make rearrangements, or for the implementation of an order for a change in the service during the time that was negotiated with the Customer prior to the release of that service.
5. Periods when the Customer elects not to release the service for testing and/or repair and continues to use it on an impaired basis.
6. An interruption or a group of interruptions, resulting from a common cause, that would result in credit in an amount less than one dollar.
7. Interruptions of a service which continue because of the failure of the Customer to authorize replacement of any element of Special Construction. The period for which no credit allowance is made begins on the seventh day after the Customer receives the Company's written notification of the need for such replacement and ends on the day after receipt by the Company of the Customer's written authorization for such replacement.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 32

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.4. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (Cont'd)

#### 2.4.5. Credit Allowance for Service Interruptions (Cont'd)

##### D. Use of an Alternative Service Provided by the Company

Should the Customer elect to use an alternative service provided by the Company during the period that a service is interrupted, the Customer must pay the tariffed rates and charges for the alternative service used.

##### E. Temporary Surrender of a Service

In certain instances, the Customer may be requested by the Company to surrender a service for purposes other than maintenance, testing or activity relating to a service order. If the Customer consents, a credit allowance will be granted. The credit allowance will be 1/1440 of the monthly rate for each period of thirty (30) minutes or Major Fraction Thereof that the service is surrendered. In no case will the credit allowance exceed the monthly rate for the service surrendered in any one monthly billing period.

#### 2.4.6. Re-establishment of Service Following Fire, Flood or Other Occurrence

##### A. Nonrecurring Charges Do Not Apply

Nonrecurring charges do not apply for the re-establishment of service following a fire, flood or other occurrence attributed to an Act of God provided that:

1. The service is of the same type as was provided prior to the fire, flood or other occurrence.
2. The service is for the same Customer.
3. The service is at the same location on the same premises.
4. The re-establishment of service begins within sixty (60) days after Company service is available. (The sixty (60) day period may be extended a reasonable period if the renovation of the original location on the premises affected is not practical within the allotted time period).

##### B. Nonrecurring Charges Apply

Nonrecurring charges apply for establishing service at a different location on the same premises or at a different premises pending re-establishment of service at the original location.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 33

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.4. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (Cont'd)

#### 2.4.7. Title or Ownership Rights

The payment of rates and charges by Customers for the services offered under the provisions of this tariff does not assign, confer or transfer title or ownership rights to service designs, proposals, configurations or facilities developed or utilized, respectively, by the Company in connection with the provision of such services.

#### 2.4.8. Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than One Exchange Telephone Company is Involved

Meet Point billing applies where a customer orders Call Completion Service to a tandem operated by another Exchange Telephone Company which subtends an end office operated by the Company. All other recurring and nonrecurring charges for services provided by each Exchange Telephone Company are billed under each company's applicable rates exhibited in their respective tariffs.

The Company accepts and adheres to the Ordering and Billing Forum guidelines, Multiple Exchange Carrier Access Billing (MECAB) and Multiple Exchange Carrier Ordering and Design (MECOD).

The Company will handle ordering, rating and billing of Access Services under this tariff where more than one Exchange Telephone Company is involved in the provision of Access Services as follows:

When FGD is ordered by a customer to a tandem operated by another Exchange Telephone Company which is subtended by an end office operated by TCG, the customer must provide the original order to the Exchange Telephone Company which operates the access tandem, and must provide a copy of the order to this Company.

Each Exchange Telephone Company that accepts the order will provide the portion of Switched Transport in its territory to an interconnection point (IP) with another Exchange telephone Company, and will bill the service in accordance with its tariff(s). The rates for Switched Transport (fixed and per mile), are determined as follows:

TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 34

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.4. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (Cont'd)

2.4.8. Ordering, Rating and Billing of Access Services Where More Than  
One Exchange Telephone Company is Involved (Cont'd)

(1)The total mileage for the service is computed using the V&H  
Coordinate Method set forth in National Exchange Carrier  
Association Tariff F.C.C. No. 4 (NECA No. 4).

(2)A billing factor called the Border Interconnection Percentage  
(BIP) is determined from NECA No. 4 directly.

(3)The company's rates and charges are then multiplied by the  
appropriate quantity(ies) and the billing factor to obtain the  
charges for this company.



TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 35

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.4. PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND CREDIT ALLOWANCES (Cont'd)

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TC SYSTEMS, INC.  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
ACCESS SERVICES

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004

EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004

BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

---

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 36

2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

2.5. CONNECTIONS

Equipment and systems (i.e., terminal equipment, multiline terminating systems and communications systems) may be connected with Access Service furnished by the Company where such connection is made in accordance with the provisions specified in Technical Reference Publication AS No. 1, Issue II and in Section 2.1 of this tariff.

2.6. Reserved For Future Use

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 37

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.7. DEFINITIONS

#### Access Minutes

For the purpose of calculating chargeable usage, the term "Access Minutes" denotes Customer usage, in minutes of use, of Access Service in the provision of intrastate service. Unless otherwise provided in this tariff, on the originating end of an intrastate Call, usage is measured from the time the originating End User's Call is delivered by the Company to and acknowledged as received by the Customer's facilities connected with the originating exchange, and on the terminating end of an intrastate Call, usage is measured from the time the Call is received by the End User in the terminating exchange. Unless otherwise provided in this tariff, timing of usage at both originating and terminating ends of an intrastate Call shall terminate when the calling or called party disconnects, whichever event is recognized first in the originating and terminating exchanges, as applicable.

#### Access Service

The term "Access Service" denotes the use of the network or facilities of the Company to enable a Customer to terminate a Call. Notwithstanding the foregoing, "Access Service" does not include any service that constitutes Network Interconnection Service.

#### Access Tandem

The term "Access Tandem" denotes a switching system which provides a concentration and distribution function for terminating traffic between the Customer Premises and End Offices that are served by such Access Tandem.

#### Affiliate

The term "Affiliate" denotes a person or entity that (directly or indirectly) owns or controls, is owned or controlled by, or is under common ownership or control with, another person or entity. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "own" means to own an equity interest (or the equivalent thereof) of 50 percent or more.

#### Business Day

The term "Business Day" denotes the times of day that a company is open for business. Generally, in the business community, these are 8:00 or 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 or 6:00 p.m., respectively, with an hour for lunch, Monday through Friday, resulting in a standard forty (40) hour work week. However, Business Day hours for the Company may vary based on Company policy, union contract and location.

ISSUED: APRIL 1, 2004  
EFFECTIVE: MAY 1, 2004  
BY: Leslie Buford-Tariff Administrator

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SECTION 2  
ORIGINAL PAGE 38

## 2. GENERAL REGULATIONS

### 2.7. DEFINITIONS (Cont'd)

#### Call

The term "Call" denotes an End User or Customer attempt for which complete address information (e.g., 7 or 10 digits) is provided to the serving dial tone office.

#### Carrier or Common Carrier

The term "Carrier" or "Common Carrier" denotes a Local Exchange Carrier or Interexchange Carrier.

#### Central Office

See End Office.

#### Central Office Prefix

The term "Central Office Prefix" denotes the first three digits (NXX) of the seven digit telephone number assigned to an End User's Local Exchange Service.

#### Channelize

The term "Channelize" denotes the process of multiplexing/demultiplexing wider bandwidth or higher speed channels into narrower bandwidth or lower speed channels.

#### Communications System

The term "Communications System" denotes channels and other facilities which are capable of communications between terminal equipment provided by other than the Company.

#### Company

The term "Company" denotes TC SYSTEMS, INC, which is the issuer of this tariff.